

# The Calvin Ball Bulletin

## District Two

October 2014 Edition

### Welcome!

Fall has arrived and with it, comes many opportunities for you and your family to be a part of all the fun things happening around Howard County! In this edition, you will find information about upcoming events and ways to get and stay involved throughout the year. I will also be posting updates when available to my FB page so I encourage you to ["Like" me](#) to stay informed or register for updates through [NotifyMeHoward](#).

Know of any upcoming events you'd like to see highlighted here? Please email me the details to [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov).

If you are not already registered to receive this newsletter, email "subscribe" to [cball@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cball@howardcountymd.gov) and I will be happy to add you to our distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

### Inside this issue:

MLK Essay Contest	1
50+ Expo	2
Teen Idol Competition	2
MIHU Open Enrollment	2
8 <sup>th</sup> annual Community Market Festival	2
Choose Civility Symposium	2
Transition Fair	2
Columbia Speaks – CA Listens	3
Youth Corner	5

### Citizen Services Hosts Public Meeting on Elkridge Senior Center!

Want to share your feedback for the future of the new Elkridge Senior Center? Our Department of Citizen Services will host 2 public meetings on **Tuesday, September 30**: 1-3pm and 7-9pm, both held at the current **Elkridge Senior Center, 6540 Washington Blvd** in Elkridge. Don't miss this opportunity to engage with our Architects and share your insight on what amenities you'd like to see incorporated into this new 45,000sq project, scheduled to open late 2016, early 2017! For more details, call **410-313-6535**.

GIVE US  
YOUR  
FEEDBACK

### A Night for Caregivers: Take What You Need!

The Department of Citizen Services invites you to attend ***A Night For Caregivers: Take What You Need*** on **Tuesday, September 30, 6-7:30pm** at the Gary J. Arthur Community Center, 2400 Route 97 in Cooksville, MD. Coordinated by the Office on Aging's Caregiver Support program, the event is free, and all are welcome. Respite care for your loved one is provided.

We hope you will join us for a special evening of **supper and sharing** designed for caregivers. Enjoy a light meal followed by 3 engaging skits (performed by the Mental Health Players) that take a look at challenges caregivers encounter. Audience interaction is encouraged! Feel free to bring your loved one; respite care, including dinner and activities, will be provided by the Glenwood Senior Center Plus staff. **Registration is required by Monday, September 29**. To register, or for more information, contact **Valerie Liss, 410-313-6060** or email [vliss@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:vliss@howardcountymd.gov).

### MLK, Jr Essay Contest – MS/HS Students... Enter today!

Middle School and High School students are invited to participate in the Martin Luther King, Jr Essay Contest. This year's question is: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is 'What are you doing for others?'". Students are asked to consider a time when they aided or helped someone and relate their essay to the work of Dr. King.

To be eligible, you must be a Howard County resident in middle or high school. Essays must be typed and double-spaced and include the student's name, address, phone number, email address, name of school and grade. Essays must be postmarked or delivered by **5 p.m., Wednesday, November 5, 2014** to MLK Student Essay Contest, c/o Howard County Office of Human Rights, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 239, Columbia, MD 21046 or email: [SubmissionsMLK@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:SubmissionsMLK@howardcountymd.gov). For more details, contact **Mary Toth** at **410-313-6467**, email [mtoth@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:mtoth@howardcountymd.gov), or go [online](#).

## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual 50+ Expo!

On **October 17<sup>th</sup> 9am-4pm**, join the County's Department of Citizen Services for the 16th annual 50+EXPO at **Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Road, Columbia**. Geared towards adults age 50 and older, caregivers, family members and health care professionals, the EXPO features over exhibitors, life-enriching workshops and healthy aging seminars, a living green fair, great food and all day entertainment. Stay tuned to [www.howardcountyyaging.org/50plusexpo](http://www.howardcountyyaging.org/50plusexpo) for more information or call 410-313-6410.



## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Hear My Voice Teen Idol Competition!

The stage is set – and so are the dates – for Columbia Association's (CA) 12<sup>th</sup> annual Hear My Voice Teen Idol Competition, which spotlights some of the best young singers in Columbia and Howard County! Auditions are underway. Semifinals will perform on **Wednesday, October 1, 2014 7pm** at the **Slayton House, 10400 Cross Fox Lane** in the Wilde Lake Village Center. The best of the best will then advance to a performance on **Sunday, October 12, 2014 3-6pm** at the Downtown Columbia Lakefront.

The competition is open to youth 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. No music is necessary for the auditions. Explicit lyrics are not permitted. Though registration is not required, participants can register by calling **410-992-3726**. For more details, click [here](#).

## MIHU Open Enrollment & Informational Buyers/Renters Workshop!

Howard County Housing has begun accepting applications for the October open enrollment period for the County's Moderate Income Housing Unit (MIHU) will start Wednesday, October 1, 2014 and end Friday, **October 31, 2014**. Housing will hold a "MIHU Buyers and Renters Workshop" on **Monday, October 13 at 6pm** at the **Gateway Building, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive in Columbia**. This event is FREE and open to the public and will explain the program's eligibility requirements and application process for prospective homebuyers and renters.

## HCC to Host 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Market Festival!

On **Tuesday, October 7, 2014 10:30am-2:30pm** in the Quad, Howard Community College will host its 8<sup>th</sup> annual Community Market Festival to promote the environmental and economic benefits of purchasing from local vendors. This event is designed to introduce students and the community to the concept of purchasing locally, so they can become lifelong supports of the local economy. The festival will feature local and independent merchants selling items such as food, crafts, and clothing. Vendors will include familiar local businesses and independent crafters selling items such as baked goods, coffee, produce, jewelry and handmade soaps. For details, click [here](#).

## Choose Civility Symposium – The Ball's In Your Court: Can Civility & Sports Coexist?



The 2014 Choose Civility Symposium theme takes to the athletic field for an engaging community discussion on civility in sports on **Thursday, October 9, 2014 6:30pm** at the Howard County Library, Miller Branch, 9421 Frederick Rd in Ellicott City. Adult behavior exerts a profound influence on children's success in sports. It can make or break a student athlete's performance. Is the pressure to win, the competition for scholarship dollars, and mounting aggression on the court and field eroding the time-honored code of good sportsmanship? What does it really take to succeed in today's sports environment?

Whether you are a fan, parent, coach, athlete, or interested observer, join this fascinating discussion exploring teamwork, leadership, role models, sportsmanship, and competition, featuring NPR's Korva Coleman in conversation with former NFL star (and Baltimore Colt) **Joe Ehrmann**, sports psychology expert **Amanda Visek** from George Washington University, Mt. Hebron High School Athletics and Activities Manager **Jeannie Prevosto**, and a student athlete from Howard County Public School System. For more details, click [here](#).

## Transition Fair for Students with Developmental Disabilities!

Parents and guardians are invited to learn about options available to young adults receiving special education services and transition planning for life after high school. Agencies will provide information on the services that are available to your transition student. New this year, HCPSS will provide a road map to guide you through the process based on your child's age, and whether or not he/she is earning a diploma or certificate of completion.

The Transition Fair event will be held on **Wednesday, October 8, 2014 6-8pm** at **Wilde Lake High School, 5460 Trumpeter Rd** in Columbia, and will feature three breakout sessions including: Resource Coordination, Department of Rehabilitation Services (DORS) and Parent Forum. For more details, contact **Dawson Robertson** at **410-313-5640**.

## Family & Friends CPR Classes

Howard County Fire and Rescue will be holding free Family & Friends CPR classes from now through the end of the year. Help them fill their seats by reaching out to your own family and friends. Their goal is to have every resident in Howard County learn how to save a life with CPR. Here are dates and times for the next two months and the rest can be found on our [website](#).

**Oct 9th, 6-8 pm @ Public Safety Training Center (Marriottsville, MD)**

**Oct 23rd, 6-8 pm @ Gateway government building (Columbia, MD)**

**Nov 5th, 6-8 pm @ Public Safety Training Center (Marriottsville, MD)**

**Nov 19th, 6-8 pm @ Gateway government building (Columbia, MD)**

For question or more information, please email [handsonlycpr@hcdfrs.org](mailto:handsonlycpr@hcdfrs.org) to register for a spot.

## Columbia Speaks – CA Listens!

Columbia Association (CA) wants to hear more from you — and from more of you! That's why the External Relations Committee of the CA Board of Directors will be hosting "Columbia Speaks. CA Listens," a community input meeting. The meeting will be on **Saturday, Oct. 18, 9:30am-12pm** at the **Wilde Lake Interfaith Center, 10431 Twin Rivers Rd** in Columbia. A social hour will be hosted 8:30-9:30am.

Please join us to be a part of a community conversation. Come together with neighbors from around Columbia to share your ideas at this unique working session. Hold your space by registering [here](#). Participant information will be used to help us meet our goals of engaging a diverse cross-section of Columbia residents. Information will be kept confidential.

## Spotlight on Village Events!



### Oakland Mills 2014 Upcoming Events:

#### Jazz in the Mills @ The Other Barn

Jazz in the Mills 2014 Concert Series brings acclaimed Jazz performers to the Other Barn in Oakland Mills. Only two concert dates remain: **Sunday, October 5** featuring Ms. Janine Carter and **Sunday, December 7** featuring Esther and Davey Yarborough. Jazz in the Mills is held at **The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD 21045**. All concerts are **from 5pm – 7pm**. Wine, soft drinks and snacks are available for purchase. For more information you can also contact Sandy Cederbaum at [manager@oaklandmills.org](mailto:manager@oaklandmills.org).

#### Oakland Mills Cultural Arts Festival

Come out **October 11, 2014 11am – 4pm** for an afternoon of live music, children's performers, crafts, festival food, health screenings, local talent, and a variety of craft vendors at the Oakland Mills Village Center, **5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia**. For more info, call **410-730-4610** or email [events@oaklandmills.org](mailto:events@oaklandmills.org).

#### 50+ Fun and Fulfilling Series Debut

"Flower Transfer/Pounding" at **The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at 2:00 p.m.** Flower transfer is an ancient method of transferring by hammering delicate patterns of leaves and or flower petals to cloth or paper. The fun of flower transfer (pounding) is seeing the petals bleed onto the fabric or paper. The color of the petal doesn't always reflect the petal or leaf being pounded! The same flower picked on different days will result in a variety of shades. The possibilities are endless – wall hangings, cards, place mats, T-shirts, lamp shades, quilts with seasonal themes. The program is free. Participant must provide requested supplies. Registration is required.

#### Lively Arts for Little Ones Presents: Pam the Kindersinger @ The Other Barn

Come out to **The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, Friday, October 24, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.** for our first show of the season! [Pam the Kindersinger](#) will have children up dancing, singing, and involved in every way! "Get up and Glow" is an interactive program that makes it fun to eat healthy, exercise and practice good hygiene.

### Long Reach 2014 Upcoming Events

#### Village-Wide Yard Sale

On **October 18, 2014**, there will be a Village-Wide yard sale. You can call or stop by **Stonehouse** to sign up by October 8. There is no charge to sign up and they will list your street in the Columbia Flier ad. They will also give you a ribbon to tie on your street sign. For more information and to sign up, call **410-730-8113**.

#### Long Reach Halloween Party

On **Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 1 pm – 2:30 pm** come to **Stonehouse** for Halloween fun. This event is for children up to 10 years old (Children must be accompanied by an adult). Decorate a pumpkin, make a Halloween Craft at the Art Center, enjoy some refreshments, and get your Trick or Treat bag with goodies. There will also be a Magic Show. For more information, call **410-730-8113**.

#### Paper Shredding Event

On **Saturday, November 8, 2014 from 9:30 am – 12 noon** come to the **Long Reach Village Center** for a shredding event. This event is for Long Reach residents only (ID will be required). For more information, call Stonehouse at 410-730-8113.

## Aging in Place Home Repair Funding!

Since 2005, Columbia Association and the Howard County Office on Aging have partnered to help older adults age in place, providing financial assistance to qualified CA homeowners who cannot otherwise pay for accessibility or repair expenses for their homes. For more information, please see the full news release on CA's website, <http://bit.ly/1iiiVAp>

## Farmer's Market in Oakland Mills!



Howard County Farmer's Markets remain open and are a great opportunity buy fresh and local! Oakland Mills Market is open **Sundays 9am-1pm at the Oakland Mills Village Center, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia** through **November 9, 2014** to enjoy products from vendors like The Cosmic Coffee Bean Company, Great Harvest Bread Co., Lewis Orchards, and many more.

The Farmer's Market provides residents with a one-stop shop for locally grown, raised, and prepared foods and plants. For more information or other locations, visit <http://howardcountyfarmersmarkets.com/index.html>.

## Homeless Gazette!

As an elected official and advocate to end homelessness, I'm thrilled to partner with the Route 1 Day Resource Center to put on the Hope for Homeless 5k. I'd like to share with you the Homeless Gazette which highlights stories and touching information from clients of the Day Center that I hope you find inspiring. I hope you will consider contributing to the Day Center and to their cause in their future. You can find the latest **September 2014** edition [here](#) and view the archive editions [here](#). Here is a [list](#) of their needs if you're able to donate.

## Recreation & Parks Announce Deer Management Program for 2014-2015

Howard County's Department of Recreation & Parks has announced its fall/winter schedule of managed deer hunts. These hunts are held in an effort to help maintain a stable, balanced white-tailed deer population in our parks where deer browsing has been shown to reduce biodiversity. The hunting schedule is as follows but can also be accessed [online](#). For more details, call **410-313-1675**.

Alpha Ridge Park	
Bow & Shotgun	<b>October 15; November 12 and 25</b>
Blandair Park	
Bow Hunting	<b>October 7, 21 and 28; November 10; February 4</b>
David Force Park	
Bow & Shotgun	<b>October 15 and 29; November 19; January 28</b>
High Ridge Park	
Shotgun Hunting	<b>November 6 and 24; January 14</b>
Middle Patuxent Environmental Area	
Bow & Shotgun	<b>October 14 and 30; November 11 and 20; January 8 and 22; February 5 and 19</b>
Schooley Mill Park	
Shotgun Hunting	<b>January 7, 15, 21 and 29</b>
West Friendship Park (Wounded Soldiers Hunt)	
Bow & Shotgun	<b>October 22; November 5; December 17; February 11</b>
Wincopin Trail	
Bow Hunting	<b>October 9 and 23; November 18; February 12</b>

## Free Financial Coaching!

A new program, MyBudgetCoach, was launched in Howard County by MakingChange in partnership with [Maryland CASH Campaign](#) and helps working families and individuals improve their ability to budget and make well-informed financial decisions. Understanding the importance of budgeting is generally recognized as the first step in successful financial planning. Participants meet with a trained volunteer coach once a month for 12 monthly sessions. Budgeting techniques, financial management and goal attainment strategies are included. Participants and coaches use on-line tools to track progress in real-time.

Contact the MyBudgetCoach Relationship Manager, **Leslie Petak**, at [petakl@makingchangecenter.org](mailto:petakl@makingchangecenter.org) if you are interested in participating in the program. MakingChange provides group seminars and personal coaching to teach people to manage their money and change their lives. Its programs are offered in schools, human service agencies and businesses. For more information, visit [www.makingchangecenter.org](http://www.makingchangecenter.org).

## "Your Local Career Connection" Helps in Your Search For Employment!

Howard County's Office of Workforce Development is here for you! The center is geared towards meeting the workforce and employment needs of businesses and job seekers in the 21st century labor market. They provide companies and individuals ranging from professional, technical and managerial to entry level. It offers residents a variety of tools to aid in a job search. The full service center is equipped with computers, fax machines, telephones, internet access and copiers – all to assist you with your employment search. Customized recruitment events are held for businesses and space is available to use for interviewing. For more details, click [here](#) or call **410-290-2620**. The calendar of events is [online](#).





## Calling All Youth and Teens!

Get involved and be a part of the solution. Have fun and make new friends! Columbia Association's Teen and Middle School Advisory Committee is now seeking young individuals to attend monthly meetings and help get involved in their community by planning, organizing and implementing positive programs and activities for their peers.

High School Students (Ages 13-19) and Middle School Students (Ages 11-13) are invited to call **410-992-3726** or email [CATeens@ColumbiaAssociation.org](mailto:CATeens@ColumbiaAssociation.org) to sign-up. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month 6:30-8pm at the Youth & Teen Center & The Barn in the Village of Oakland Mills, 5853 Robert Oliver Place in Columbia.

## Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below you will find helpful links for parents and youth.

**4H Club:** For youth grades 3+. Meets **2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month** at The Other Barn **3:30-5pm**. Call **410-992-3726** for more info

**Art Attack:** Creative after-school enrichment program from the Columbia Art Center. Meets **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays**.

Registration/Fees may apply. Call **410-992-3726**.

**Columbia Teen Center** 410-992-3726

**Howard County Library** [www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22](http://www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22)

**Voices For Change** <http://hcv4c.org/> or email [MMekelburg7@verizon.net](mailto:MMekelburg7@verizon.net)

I encourage you to share this information with friends, families, neighbors and most importantly, your children.

## Make a Difference in a Student's Life... A-Ok Mentors Needed!

A-OK (Assist Our Kids) Mentoring-Tutoring, Inc. is now recruiting adult volunteers to be mentor-tutors to HCPSS students who need extra support and encouragement to succeed. Volunteers meet with students individually or in small groups, during the school day and in after school programs. A-OK seeks dependable community members who can commit to one hour/week for one school year.

Participating elementary schools are: Atholton, Bryant Woods, Cradlerock, Deep Run, Forest Ridge, Guilford, Longfellow, Phelps Luck, Running Brook and Stevens Forest. There are also limited opportunities to meet with older students. For more info, call Chaya Kaplan at [aokmentor@gmail.com](mailto:aokmentor@gmail.com) or call **410-730-6030**.

## Scholarships For Students!

As an educator, I know the value and importance of education. I also know that many families often struggle with financing the dream. Below is a sample of scholarships available. I encourage your students to apply early.

### Davidson College, John Montgomery Belk Scholarship

**Deadline:** Nomination request by 10/15/14; **Award:** Comprehensive fees plus study stipend

**Description:** Renewable annual scholarship. Looking for academically powerful and dynamic student leaders.

**Specific Focus:** Davidson College. Academic and Leadership.



### Roanoke College Scholars Program

**Deadline:** 10/13/14 for November and 1/5/15 for February; **Award:** \$190,000 over four years

**Description:** Be a prospective college freshman seeking first-time fall enrollment. You must also be accepted to the College prior to the competition. Students with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA in a rigorous academic curriculum should consider applying for the Scholars Program

**Specific Focus:** Roanoke College ([www.roanoke.edu/scholars](http://www.roanoke.edu/scholars))

### National Co-op Scholarship Program

**Deadline:** 2/15/15 ; **Award:** Varies

**Description:** Encourages minority and female students as well as students interested in STEM to apply for this merit co-op scholarship. 3.5 of better GPA, completed application and a 200 word essay. Application to a WACE Partner Institution: Clarkson Univ, Drexel Univ., Johnson & Wales Univ., Kettering Univ., Merrimack College, Rochester Institute of Tech., SUNY Oswego, Univ. of Cincinnati, Univ. of Mass. Lowell, Univ. of Toledo, Wentworth Institute of Tech. Complete application online. Early applications highly encouraged.

**Specific focus:** WACE Partner Institutions. Minority, female, STEM.

**Contact:** [www.waceinc.org](http://www.waceinc.org), Marty Ford at [marty\\_ford@uml.edu](mailto:marty_ford@uml.edu)

### UMBC – Meyerhoff Scholars Programs

**Deadline:** Nomination request by 10/1/14; **Award:** \$5,000-\$22,000/year

**Description:** Students interested in pursuing doctoral study in a STEM field and who are interested in the advancement of minorities in those fields. Need a B average college prep Math and Science courses and outstanding SAT scores.

**Specific focus:** UMBC – STEM

### Ithaca College – Park Scholar Award

**Deadline:** nomination request by 12/1/14; **Award:** full cost of attendance (including tuition, stipends, books and computer), renewable for a total of 4 years.

**Description:** Counselor nomination is not required, but encouraged. [www.ithaca.edu/parkscholars](http://www.ithaca.edu/parkscholars)

**Specific Focus:** Ithaca College – Roy H. Park School of Communications

## Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession and while Howard County may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money.

**TAX CREDITS:** The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at <http://countyofhowardmd.us/Services.aspx?id=6442458618> or by calling 410-313-4076. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

Livable Home Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Senior Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1492>

Homeowners Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1558>

Homestead Tax Credit: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead.html>

Energy Conservation Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442455147>

Daycare Provider Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Amateur Sports Athletic Fields Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Community Associations Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Renovation of Historic Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Trash Collection Fee Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

## Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

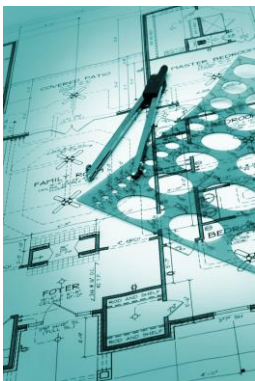
To schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll free number: 1-800-506-5806.

## In Need of Crisis Intervention?

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency serving Howard County and Central Maryland which empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter and outreach services. They provide programs and services including a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men's Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter and Day Resource Center.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at 6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044. For more information, please call 410-531-6006 or visit their website online at [www.grassrootscrisis.org](http://www.grassrootscrisis.org). The 24-hour line is 410-531-6677 and the MD Crisis Hotline is 1-800-422-0009.

## MD Housing Rehabilitation Program for Homeowners!



HC Housing is accepting applications for the MD Housing Rehabilitation Program for Single Family (MHRP-SF). Applications are available at Housing's office in the Gateway Building, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in Columbia.

MHRP-SF is a housing rehabilitation program that preserves and improves single family properties with an emphasis on bringing eligible properties into compliance with applicable building codes and standards. It's designed to address priority home maintenance items, such as: correcting exterior or interior deficiencies; making accessibility modifications; correcting health and safety violations; improving the homes weatherization and energy conservation; and correcting lead-based paint violations. General improvements, such as small home additions, alterations and carpeting, fences and landscaping, and kitchen, bathroom and closet remodeling, may be considered for financing as well, if all priority home maintenance items are in good condition or have been previously renovated. Swimming pools and recreational facilities are considered luxury items and not eligible.

For more information, contact Deborah Gillen at 410-313-3508 [DGillen@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:DGillen@howardcountymd.gov).

## Howard County Safety... Helpful Hints!

- Experiencing an Emergency? Dial 9-1-1
- Want to report an incident, non-emergency? Call 410-313-2200
- Need to report drug activity? Call 410-290-3784 or email [ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov)
- Want to make an anonymous tip (e.g. child abuse, violence, gangs, gambling, school incidents, underage drinking, damage to property etc.)? Call 410-313-7867 or email [GangTips@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:GangTips@howardcountymd.gov)
- Want to report gun crimes? Call 410-313-7867 or email [CToler@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:CToler@howardcountymd.gov).
- Do you need Victim Assistance? Call 410-313-3712 or email [KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov)
- Interested in a FREE Home Security Survey? Call 410-313-4795 and leave a message to make an appointment. For more info, call the Special Operations Bureau at 410-313-3758 or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/aboutpolice.htm>
- Want to start a Neighborhood Watch? Call the Community Services Section at 410-313-4780.
- Looking to prevent Auto Theft? Helpful tips available at <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/departments.aspx?ID=6442451452>
- Want to report an animal cruelty incidence or report unwanted pets, endangered animals, etc.? Call 410-313-2780, email [animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov) or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/animalcontrol.htm>
- Are speeders in your neighborhood? Consider the SMART Program initiative. Info available at [www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd\\_smartprogram.htm](http://www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd_smartprogram.htm)
- Interested in a Police Ride-Along? Call 410-313-2208 for an application
- Need a HCPD Spanish line? Call 410-313-7807.
- Interested in volunteering with the HCPD? Call 410-313-2255
- Interesting in HCPD Recruitment? Call 410-313-4273.

## Alzheimer's Support Groups in Howard County!

Howard County proudly offers several Alzheimer's Support Groups at various locations throughout the County during days and times that are geared at accommodating the needs of those impacted by Alzheimer's. Pre-screening is required. For support group locations in Howard County, click [here](#). For more information on the Alzheimer's Association, call 1-800-272-3900 or visit [www.alz.org/maryland](http://www.alz.org/maryland).

## "Guaranteed Ride Home" Comes to Howard County!

A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation.

To be eligible to participate in the program, commuters must register [online](#) or call 1-800-745-RIDE (7433).



## Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard County Police Department and the community which is designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation and encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors.

For more information, please contact the Howard County Police Department at 410-313-2200.

## Foreign Born Information and Referral Network!

The Foreign Born Information and Referral Network, 5999 Harpers Farm Road, Suite 200-E in Columbia needs Spanish-speaking volunteers to greet clients, answer basic questions, make appointments and support the staff. Hours are **9am-1pm or 1-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday**. Other times may be considered. For more information, call 410-992-1923 x 14.

## Recycling... Do's And Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, click [here](#) or call 410-313-6444. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call 410-313-7678 or go [online](#).

## Give the Gift of Independence!

Neighbor Ride launched its volunteer-based transportation service in 2004 with the mission to decrease isolation and improve the quality of life for Howard County's older residents. Today, its dedicated volunteers provide an average of 1,000 trips per month for medical appointments, shopping, social outings, personal care and business, religious services, volunteer activities and other day-to-day needs.

YOU can give seniors the gift of independence by volunteering as a Neighbor Ride driver. Flexible and rewarding daytime, evening and weekend opportunities are available. No set schedule is required. Drivers simply choose to provide rides that are convenient to their homes, offices and daily routines. Parent volunteers are welcome and encouraged to bring their children along for a wonderful experience. Please contact **Patrice Cerwonka, Colleen Konstanzer or Rosemary Noble** at **410-884-RIDE (7433)** or email [volunteer@neighborride.org](mailto:volunteer@neighborride.org) for more information.

## Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor's Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we'll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, visit <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Auditor/Online-Form-to-Report-Fraud-Waste-and-Abuse>. If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous; however, you should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, email [hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov) or call 410-313-2005.

## View the Council's Current Legislation and Calendar and Stay Informed!

The County Council is responsible for adopting laws within Howard County. The legislative progress generally follows a monthly cycle. A calendar of upcoming meetings can be found [online](#).

## I Want to Hear From You!

This is your opportunity to stay informed and get involved! Your comments are always welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email to [Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov) or fax 410-313-3297.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**.

Dr. Calvin Ball  
Howard County Council  
[District 2](#)  
[Email Me](#)  
3430 Courthouse Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

*"Unity is strength... when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved"*  
~ **Mattie Stepanek**